

Scan the Span

Bad rivets, corrosion and cracks are big trouble for your AVLB.

Rivets can snap like toothpicks when corrosion sets in. At the bridge's high stress areas, corroded rivets will break, causing the bridge to collapse.

Protect yourself and others by following the PMCS in TM 5-5420-203-14.

Then go one step further. Before each operation, take a close look at the center panel hinges and the upper and lower connectors on the center and end panels. If you see a broken or missing rivet, look for white powder in the rivet hole or on the remaining portion of the rivet—that's corrosion.

If you find any corrosion, the AVLB is NMC until the panel is repaired or replaced.

If you find a loose rivet, a rivet whose head has been sheared off, or a missing rivet with no sign of corrosion, tell your support folks. They'll replace the bad hardware.

Make No Welds

If you find a crack on the bridge, get support to replace the bad parts.

You may be tempted to weld that spot. **Don't.** The bridge is made of a special high-strength, heat-treated aluminum. Welding will weaken it. That could cause the bridge to collapse during a crossing.

